

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 07742 122305Z

61

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-10 USSS-00 EUR-25 SSO-00 NSCE-00

EA-11 IO-15 NEA-10 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 ACDA-19 AID-20 PC-04 DRC-01 INRE-00 /197 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8433

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 7742

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MX

SUBJ: DEMANDS OF GUADALAJARA KIDNAPPERS. MADE PUBLIC; GOM
RESPONSE UNCLEAR

REF: MEXICO 7679

1. DEMANDS BY KIDNAPPERS OF HONORARY BRITISH CONSUL WILLIAMS AND INDUSTRIALIST ARANGUREN IN GUADALAJARA (REFTEL) WERE MADE PUBLIC LATE ON OCTOBER 11 AND ARE AS FOLLOWS: LIBERATION OF 51 NAMED PERSONS FROM NINE DIFFERENT PENITENTIARIES AND JAILS THROUGHOUT MEXICO; THEIR TRANSPORTATION TO NORTH KOREA BY MEXICAN AIRCRAFT, WITH CUBAN AMBASSADOR OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE ACCOMPANYING; DELIVERY OF US\$200,000 IN CASH TO AIRCRAFT BY GOM REPRESENTATIVE; AND PROMULGATION OF AN "APPEAL TO THE NATION" -- NOT YET RECEIVED -- OVER RADIO AND TV AND ON FRONT PAGES OF NEWSPAPERS IN MEXICO CITY AND SEVERAL STATES. KIDNAP VICTIMS REPORTEDLY TO BE RELEASED WHEN CUBANS CONFIRM OVER RADIO/TV SAFE ARRIVAL OF GROUP IN NORTH KOREA. DEADLINE FOR ASSEMBLY OF PRISONERS, PROVISION OF AIRCRAFT, ETC., IN GUADALAJARA IS REPORTEDLY 1600 HOURS LOCAL (2200 GMT) OCTOBER 12.

2. GROUP WHOSE RELEASE IS DEMANDED INCLUDES LARGE NUMBER OF MAR-ACTION MEMBERS ARRESTED SINCE SPRING 1971 WHO RECEIVED TRAIN-
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PAGE 02 MEXICO 07742 122305Z

ING IN NORTH KOREA; WELL-KNOWN RADICAL RAMON DANZOS PALOMINO;

PABLO CABANAS BARRIENTOS, BROTHER OF GUERRERO GUERRILLA LEADER LUCIO CABANAS; CONVICTED PARTICIPANTS IN SEPT 1971 KIDNAPPING OF JULIO HIRSCHFELD ALMADA; TWO MEN DETAINED FOR MAY 1973 KIDNAPPING OF US CONSUL GENERAL LEONHARDY; AND -- RATHER SURPRISINGLY -- FOUR OF THE SIX MEN APPREHENDED WITHIN PAST WEEK (MEXICO 7619) FOR TWO RECENT KIDNAP-MURDERS WHICH HAD BEEN THOUGHT TO HAVE NO POLITICAL MOTIVATION.

3. RADIO REPORTS MID-DAY OCT 12 INDICATE THAT FAMILIES OF VICTIMS HAVE APPEALED TO KIDNAPPERS FOR 48-HOUR POSTPONEMENT OF DEADLINE, SAYING IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO COMPLY WITHIN PERIOD GIVEN. INTERIOR SECRETARIAT SPOKESMAN HAS STATED GOM WILL NOT COMPLY WITH ANY DEMANDS UNTIL IT RECEIVES ABSOLUTE ASSURANCE THAT BOTH VICTIMS STILL ALIVE AND UNHARMED.

4. LONGER-TERM GOM POSTURE NOT YET CLEAR. LEGAL ATTACHE HAS UNCONFIRMED REPEAT UNCONFIRMED REPORT THAT PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA DECIDED THIS MORNING TO COMPLY WITH DEMANDS, WITH MODIFICATIONS THAT PRISONERS TO BE ASSEMBLED IN MEXICO CITY (WHERE MAJORITY ARE BEING HELD) RATHER THAN IN GUADALAJARA, AND THAT GOM OFFICIAL OF SUB-CABINET RANK TO ACCOMPANY GROUP, IN PLACE OF CUBAN REPRESENTATIVE. (FAMILIES OF VICTIMS ARE REPORTEDLY TO PAY THE RANSOM. GOM RESPONSE ON PUBLICATION OF "APPEAL" NOT GIVEN BY THIS SOURCE.) FLIGHT, ACCORDING TO SAME SOURCE, WILL GO FROM MEXICO TO NORTH KOREA VIA EAST GERMANY AND SOVIET UNION. INFORMATION FROM THIS SOURCE SHOULD BE TREATED WITH RESERVE PENDING CONFIRMATION.
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